

City of Smith Center
City Council Meeting Minutes
November 12, 2015
7:00 pm

The City Council met in regular session at 7:02pm with Mayor Bryce Wiehl presiding. Council members present: Lynn Zierlein, Dave Mace, Adam Rentschler, Chris Cole and Jason Baetz.

Others present: Tabitha Owen, Jamie Marshall, Terri Jones, Mickey Drake and Dale Pickel.

Motion by Zierlein, seconded by Rentschler to approve the minutes from October 22, 2015, after checking on the wording of the Economic Development grant paragraph. Motion carried. Motion by Rentschler, seconded by Mace to approve the minutes from the October 28, 2015 special meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by Cole, seconded by Cole to approve payment of bills. Motion carried.

The nuisance report was reviewed by the council. Discussion was held on the property located at 603 South Lincoln. Fencing has been put in, but not completed. A letter will be delivered to the owner in regards to immediate completion. Additional properties were discussed. Letters will be sent to the owners of 320 West New York and 215 West New York. Chief Marshall will talk to the owner of 310 South Jefferson and Attorney Owen will correspond with Kyle Railroad concerning the right of way nuisance.

Motion by Baetz, seconded by Mace to contract with United Healthcare through Strother Insurance for 2016 health insurance coverage. Motion carried.

The City Christmas party has been scheduled for December 11th, with additional information to come.

Superintendent Reports

Marshall: Mickey Drake has his provisional certificate and is training with Marshall and Miner. A vehicle with an expired registration has been left on South Lincoln Street and will be towed if still remaining the day after council meeting. Detailed discussion was held on intersections controlled with yield signs. It was decided that stop signs will replace the current yield signs at the intersections of Jefferson Street/Kansas Street and Washington Street/1st Street. Additional intersections were discussed as possible hazards due to vegetation impeding visibility of cross traffic. Marshall will inspect several intersections and letters will be sent accordingly.

Pickel: The water department will be replacing a water line on South Lincoln Street due to numerous breaks. The water department has encountered some difficulty in locating stops on a property in North Smith Center.

Rick Hileman will continue to gather information on a replacement pickup for his department.

Council Reports

Zierlein shared information on the airport re-sealing project. An alternate option would be to tear out the alternate runway and replace it with turf. The possible costs and time involved in doing so were discussed. After detailed discussion it was the consensus of the council to get an approximate cost on the turf replacement, however all members would like to continue with the seal coat to be applied at the time the numbers are repainted. Baetz questioned the airport budget. It was explained that the airport is self-sustaining, with revenue generated by hangar rent, fuel sales, etc. Projects have been completed with the assistance of the FAA; no expenses incurred at the airport have been paid for with tax money received by the City of Smith Center.

The lack of signage for the location of the swimming pool was mentioned. It was suggested that a sign be put up on US-36. Clerk Conaway will talk to a local organization to see if they are interested in this project.

Mayor Wiehl shared information on an open house for Bob Wagner, economic development advisory board member.

Motion by Rentschler, seconded by Mace to go into executive session – non-elect personnel, at 8:27pm for ten minutes. Motion carried. Council back in regular session at 8:37pm. Motion by Rentschler, seconded by Baetz to go into executive session – non-elect personnel, at 8:38pm for seven minutes. Motion carried. Council back in regular session at 8:45pm.

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, the next council meeting will be held on December 10, 2015. Motion by Baetz, seconded by Cole to adjourn at 8:46pm. Motion carried.

Attest:

Jill Conaway, City Clerk

